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JOHN M. GRIFFITH.

One of the founders of the Society of Los Angeles County Pioneers, who died in this city October 16, 1906, was a native of Baltimore, Md., December 27, 1829, being the date of his birth.

Mr. Griffith came west in 1852, settling first at Vancouver. In 1857 he came to Sacramento and engaged in freighting with the California Steam Navigation Company. He married that year Miss Sarah A. Tomlinson, a sister of John J. Tomlinson, the latter and Mr. Griffith afterwards becoming very prominent and energetic citizens of Los Angeles county.

Mr. Griffith came to this city in 1861, and soon after engaged with his brother-in-law in the passenger and freighting business between Los Angeles and the Port of San Pedro, which then and before the railroad was built was very extensive. The competition was keen between Tomlinson & Co., and Banning & Co. for several years, or until the advent of the local railroad in 1869.

Both Griffith and Tomlinson were men of undaunted energy and fighting qualities. They made things very lively for the equally irrepressible General Phineas Banning.

In later years Mr. Griffith engaged in the lumber business on an extensive scale, of which he was long the manager, and in which he was interested till his death.

Mr. Griffith was a strong character. He was possessed of many amiable qualities and he had a host of friends, by whom in his passing he was sincerely mourned.

H. D. BARROWS,
LOUIS ROEDER,
Committee.

HERMAN W. HELLMAN.

Herman W. Hellman was born September 25, 1843, in Bavaria, Germany. He came to Los Angeles May 14, 1859. Soon after his arrival he engaged in the stationery business, which he continued successfully for several years. Disposing of his business in 1870, he visited Europe and spent a year in travel. In 1871 he returned to Los Angeles, and in company with Jacob Haas, founded the wholesale grocery house of Hellman, Haas & Co., which did an extensive business in Southern California, Arizona and New Mexico.

In 1890 Mr. Hellman retired from the grocery firm and became the vice-president of the Farmers and Merchants' Bank, of which institution he was for several years the very successful manager. Later he resigned and became the president of the Merchants' National